

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 031645Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 785

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST EQUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NY

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMASSY WARSAW

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

USIA WASHDC

:DIA WASHDC

:CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB

CINCUSAREUR/HEIDELBERG

CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA

CNO WASHDC//OP-614

DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII

OSD/ISA/EUR WASHDC

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FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

E.9. 11652: NA

TAG: PFOR, UR, US, IT, UN, CH, XT

SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - MARCH 3

1. SUMMARY:

-- THE SOVIET PRESS CONTINUES TO BE DOMINATED BY THE ACTIVITIES OF THE 25TH PARTY CONGRESS. SPEECHES OF FOREIGN GUESTS ARE BEING REPORTED SEPTEL;
-- IN OTHER ITEMS, THE MEDIA REPORT THE GENEVA SALT MEETING AND THE SIGNING OF THE U.S.-SOVIET MID-ATLANTIC FISHING AGREEMENT. ONE NEWSPAPER REPORTS U.S. PLANS TO SELL AWACS AIRCRAFT TO THE NATO COUNTRIES;
-- ITALIAN CP LEADER BERLINQUER IS QUOTED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF HIS VISIT TO MOSCOW TO EXPLAIN HIS PARTY'S LINE;
-- THE PRESS REPORTS THAT THE EEC FOREIGN MINISTERS WELCOME RECENT CEMA INITIATIVE;
-- THE MEDIA REPORT THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE'S SPEECH TO THE UN SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE;
-- AND ALL CENTRAL NEWSPAPERS CARRY A COMMENTARY ON PURGES IN CHINA. END SUMMARY.

2. U.S. THE MARCH 2 SALT MEETING IN GENEVA WAS ROUTINELY ANNOUNCED IN A BRIEF TASS ITEM CARRIED IN PRAVDA. IZVESTIYA AND PRAVDA ALSO CARRIED A TASS ITEM FROM WASHINGTON ON THE SIGNING OF THE U.S.-USSR AGREEMENT ON FISHING IN THE OPEN SEA IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE MID-ATLANTIC. THE ACCORD WAS DESCRIBED AS SIGNIFICANT FOR BROADENING SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, THE SOVIET ARMY NEWSPAPER, REPORTS THAT THE U.S. DEFENSE DEPARTMENT HAS PROPOSED THE SALE TO NATO MEMBER-STATES OF 32 AWACS
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PLANES--SPECIALLY EQUIPPED 707S--AT A COST OF 2.2 BILLION DOLLARS.

3. ITALY. ALL CENTRAL PRESS CARRIES A TASS ITEM FROM ROME QUOTING PCI CHIEF BERLINQUER ON HIS RETURN FROM MOSCOW THAT HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE SOVIET PARTY CONGRESS WAS IMPORTANT FOR PROVIDING THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN THE CPI LINE ON THE QUESTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKERS MOVEMENT AND "OUR CONCEPTION OF THE STRUGGLE FOR SOCIALISM...IN OUR COUNTRY." BERLINQUER

WAS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THIS MEETING WITH BREZHNEV WAS "CORDIAL AND FRANK," AND STRESSED THE "COMPLETE RESPECT FOR INDEPENDENCE."

4. EC. THE PRESS CARRIES A TASS ITEM FROM BRUSSELS REPORTING THAT THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS WELCOMED THE CEMA "INITIATIVE" AS IN ACCORDANCE WITH EC'S OWN GOAL OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS. TASS REPORTS THAT THIS REPLY WAS DECIDED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. UN/WDC. ALL CENTRAL MEDIA CARRY A TASS ITEM FROM NEW YORK ON SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE OVINNIKOV'S STATEMENT TO THE UN SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE. THE STATEMENT, AS REPORTED, TIED THE SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR A WDC TO THE SOVIET PARTY AND GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO EFFORTS TO HALT THE ARMS RACE AND PROMOTE DISARMAMENT.

6. CHINA. ALL CENTRAL NEWSPAPERS CARRY A COMMENTARY BY TASS OBSERVER A. KRASIKOV CALLED "MASSACRES OF THE LEADING CADRES IN CHINA." (TASS ENGLISH TRANSLATES THE FIRST WORD AS "THRASHING," WHICH WEAKENS IT CONSIDERABLY.) THE ARTICLE SPEAKS OF THE NEW CAMPAIGN AS A NEW PURGE. IT SPEAKS OF CHINESE PRESS DISCUSSIONS OF MAO'S "THREE LESSONS," WHICH ARE NOW SAID TO BE THE WORK OF "CAPITALIST ROADERS." THE REAL TARGET IS TENG HSIAO-PING, SAYS KRASIKOV, WHO IS NOT NAMED OPENLY BUT IS LINKED TO LUI SHAO-CHI. IN HIS STRONGEST PASSAGE, KRASIKOV SAYS THAT UNDER MAO, "A VAST NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO ENJOYED AUTHORITY AND RESPECT BEFORE THEIR NAMES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WERE TRAMPLED IN THE DIRT, WERE PILLORIED, REPRESSED AND DESTROYED, MORALLY AND PHYSICALLY. THE LIST IS ENORMOUS. BUT IT IS FAR FROM BEING CLOSED." KRASKIOV GOES ON TO ASSERT THAT "MAO NEEDS ANOTHER SACRIFICE." COMMENT. THE ARTICLE IS PEGGED TO THE NEW CAMPAIGN IN CHINA, BUT THE TONE AND THE GENERALIZATIONS ARE TYPICAL OF THE INCREASINGLY HARSH TONE OF SOVIET ANTI-PEKING POLEMICS. STOESEL

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